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REPORT OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Second part of its thirty-ninth session*

(15-26 March 1993)

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INTRODUCTION

The second part of the thirty-ninth session of the Trade and Development Board was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 15 to 26 March 1993. In the course of the session, the Board held seven plenary meetings - the 818th to 824th meetings.

This report to the United Nations General Assembly has been prepared by the Rapporteur under the authority of the President of the Board, in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Board in the annex to its decision 302 (XXIX) of 21 September 1984. The report records, as appropriate, the action by the Board on the substantive items of its agenda (section I) and the procedural, institutional, organizational and administrative matters (section II). The Communiqué adopted by the Board at its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, is reproduced on page 2.

In connection with the action reported in section I, attention is drawn to paragraph 56 of the Cartagena Commitment, which reads as follows:

> "The outcome of deliberative processes in the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies need not take the form of resolutions. Greater use should be made of agreed conclusions, assessments or summings-up by presiding officers, particularly when the issues are new or difficult ones, requiring further exploration and the building of common perceptions."

The full report of the Board on the second part of its thirty-ninth session - to be issued subsequently in TD/B/39(2)/23 - will reflect in addition all the statements made in the course of the session on the various items of the agenda.

Communiqué of the Trade and Development Board

Summary of the agreed conclusions

1. In the second part of its thirty-ninth session, the Board discussed trade policy reform in developing countries, developments in the Uruguay Round, human resource development for trade, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, UNCTAD's activities pertaining to sustainable development, structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament and the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency scheduled for autumn 1994.

2. The Board recognized that trade liberalization was an important tool for increasing economic efficiency and improving resource allocation and growth in all countries. There was a consensus that the international community should support these efforts in developing countries, particularly the least developed, especially through adequate improved market access and increased flows of financial resources and debt relief.

3. The Board decided to transmit a message to the Governments participating in the Uruguay Round negotiations recalling that there should be an early, balanced and successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round as a prerequisite to a return to the path of growth, trade expansion and an improved world economic climate.

4. The Board agreed that the objectives stated in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s could be fully realized through a strong and committed partnership between the LDCs and their development partners. The Board emphasized the need for the formulation of medium- to long-term strategies for socio-economic development, for which sustainable good governance was considered necessary. The DAC donors were urged to fulfil aid targets and commitments to the LDCs. The efforts made by the LDCs in respect of reform measures were appreciated.

5. The Board affirmed that there were compelling reasons for Africa to continue to pursue co-operation and integration as a central element of development. The Board stressed the importance of strengthening regional infrastructures, transit facilities, transport and communications, support for structural adjustment programmes, harmonization of policies, the private sector and human resources development. The international community was urged to increase its financial support for integration projects at the subregional and regional levels.

6. The Board decided on areas of future activities for UNCTAD in the field of sustainable development and agreed that the theme of trade and environment should feature on the agenda of its future sessions. Other substantive areas of follow-up to Agenda 21 by the Board and its subsidiary bodies would include aspects of Agenda 21 relating to commodities, technology, services, poverty and privatization.

7. The Board agreed that more assertive action in the area of human resources development for trade, through combined efforts by Governments, the business community and training institutions, would pay dividends in terms of technological development, international competitiveness and other determinants of trade performance, and called for enhanced international cooperation in this area.

8. The Board decided that, at the first part of its fortieth session, it would establish terms of reference for an Ad Hoc Working Group to explore the issue of structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament. To this end, the President of the Board was requested to conduct informal consultations in mid-June on the draft terms of reference.

9. The Board welcomed and endorsed the generous offer of the United States of America to host the United Nations Symposium on Trade Efficiency in Columbus, Ohio, in 1994.

I. ACTION BY THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS OF ITS AGENDA*

A. Formal action

Item 2. Follow-up to the recommendations adopted by the Conference at its eighth session: policies for human resource development, with particular reference to technical cooperation activities for trade and development

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board approved the report by the Vice-President (United States of America) on the consultations on agenda item 2 (TD/B/39(2)/L.4) and decided that it should be incorporated in Part I of the final report on the Board's proceedings, reflecting the outcome of discussions under item 2. (For the report by the Vice-President, see section C.1 below).

Item 3. Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform: trade policy reforms in developing countries and the international support required

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board adopted the agreed conclusions of Sessional Committee I on this item in TD/B/39(2)/SC.1/L.2. (For the text, see section B, agreed conclusions 401 (XXXIX)).

Item 4. Developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board adopted the "Message from the Trade and Development Board to the Governments participating in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations" (TD/B/39(2)/L.6) and authorized the President to transmit the Message, on behalf of the Board, to the Chairman of the Trade Negotiations Committee of GATT for circulation as an official document to all Governments participating in the Round. (For the text of the Message, see section C.2 below).

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* For the Board's action on organizational and institutional matters, see section II below.

At the same meeting, the Board also agreed that the report of the Chairman of Sessional Committee I on item 4 (TD/B/39(2)/Misc.5) should be transmitted to the third executive session of the Board scheduled to take place on 27 April 1993. (For the report of the Chairman of Sessional Committee I, see section C.3 below).

Item 5. Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board adopted the agreed conclusions of the Special Sessional Committee on this item in TD/B/39(2)/SSC/L.2. (For the text, see section B, agreed conclusions 404 (XXXIX)).

Item 6. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

(a) Review of UNCTAD technical cooperation activities in Africa
(b) Regional integration issues

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board adopted the agreed conclusions of Sessional Committee II on this item in TD/B/39(2)/SC.2/L.3. (For the text, see section B, agreed conclusions 403 (XXXIX)).

Item 7: Follow-up to the decision of the Trade and Development Board at the first part of its thirty-ninth session (Board decision 399 (XXXIX) of 9 October 1992) on the establishment of an ad hoc working group to explore the issue of structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board approved the report by the Vice-President (Morocco) on the consultations on agenda item 7 (TD/B/39(2)/L.3) and decided that it should be incorporated in Part I of the final report on the Board's proceedings, reflecting the outcome of the discussions under item 7. (For the report by the Vice-President, see section C.4 below).

Item 8. Sustainable development: implications for UNCTAD of recent General Assembly decisions concerning the follow-up to UNCED's conclusions and recommendations

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board adopted the draft decision on this item submitted by the Chairman of Sessional Committee II (TD/B/39(2)/SC.2/L.2). (For the text, see section B, decision 402 (XXXIX)).

Item 9. Other matters in the field of trade and development - Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-fifth session (ITC/AG(XXV)/134 and Add.1)

At its 823rd meeting, on 23 March 1993, the Board took note of the report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-fifth session (ITC/AG(XXV)/134 and Add.1).

Item 10. Reports and activities of the subsidiary bodies of the Board: matters requiring action

(a) Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget, twenty-second session (8-12 March 1993)

At its 821st meeting, on 18 March 1993, the Board took note that the twenty-second session of the Working Party, originally scheduled for 8-12 March 1993, had been postponed to 5-8 April 1993.

(b) Convening of an Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Ports

At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board approved the draft terms of reference of the proposed Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Ports (TD/B/CN.4/20/Rev.1), which had been recommended to the Board by the consultations of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Services (Shipping) and interested delegations, and decided to convene the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Ports. (For the terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts, see section C.5 below).

B. Agreed conclusions and decision

Agreed conclusions 401 (XXXIX): Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform

In accordance with paragraph 128 of the Cartagena Commitment, the Trade and Development Board discussed issues relating to economic and trade policy reforms in developing countries and the international support required. The discussions were greatly enriched by individual country presentations. The Board also held informal discussions to exchange views and ideas with high- ranking officials and experts in this area.

In the course of discussions a broad convergence of views emerged on the following conclusions:

1. The Board noted with satisfaction that developing countries are continuing trade policy reforms and structural adjustment and considered that these efforts should be pursued, consistent with their trade, financial and development needs. Such reforms have a greater chance to be successful if they are conceived and implemented within the framework of broader economic reform efforts and processes. The international community recognizes the significant social cost that may arise in the reform process. The reform programmes should therefore incorporate a social component, and provide for an appropriate safety net, especially with regard to the vulnerable social groups.

2. The exchange of views among members of the Board provides important insights into the working of reform programmes. Technical co-operation can assist in improving the design and implementation of such programmes.

3. It was recognized that trade liberalization is an important tool for increasing economic efficiency and improving resources allocation and growth in all countries.

4. There was a consensus that the international community should support these efforts in developing countries, particularly the least developed, especially through adequate improved market access and increased flows of financial resources and debt relief. Trade policy changes in developing countries have been increasingly directed towards liberalization, thus contributing to the expansion of world trade and enhancing export possibilities and growth prospects for all countries.

5. A speedy, successful and balanced outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations is of utmost importance to the future of the world trading system and the successful pursuit of economic reforms.

6. Macro-economic stability and mutual consistency of government policies were considered to be an essential prerequisite for the success of trade policy reforms.

7. It was held that the international support should allow for pluralism of approaches towards trade policy reforms, taking fully into account specific country situations and economic, social and cultural characteristics.

8. The Board considered that human resources development, especially education, constitutes an essential component of strengthening international competitiveness, which should be accompanied by technology, vocational training, enhanced entrepreneurial capabilities and innovation. Human resources development requires substantial external support, in particular in least developed countries.

9. Intensified cooperation between developed and developing countries and between their firms in the areas of technological development and foreign direct investment can make important contributions to enhanced international competitiveness and export expansion.

10. It was agreed that, in accordance with paragraph 52 of the Cartagena Commitment, UNCTAD should consider within existing resources the identification and treatment of key emerging issues of trade and development, including an early warning perspective, in a rapidly changing world. It was suggested that the Board, at an executive session, should address possible approaches in this regard. It was also suggested that the Secretary-General be requested to prepare the necessary documentation, availing himself of the high-level expertise in this area. In carrying out this mandate UNCTAD should take full account of the work of other relevant international organizations to ensure the mutually reinforcing and supportive nature of all activities.

11. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Restrictive Business Practices should pursue its work with regard to policies and rules for the control of restrictive business practices in order to encourage competition, to promote the proper functioning of markets and efficient resource allocation, and to bring about further liberilization of international trade.

12. Within the work programme adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Trading Opportunities for Developing Countries, participating countries are invited to accord

due attention to the aspects of support to developing countries' reforms in their country presentations.

13. The proposal on the study on market-based price mechanisms as a means of assisting technology transfer to developing countries was discussed. Some delegations felt that they did not have enough time to take a view on this proposal or deliberate on it in depth. It was agreed that the proposal would be further refined by the secretariat and would be considered by the Board at the first part of its fortieth session.

14. It was also suggested that further study of national policies in developing countries and of appropriate external support measures to ensure in a longer run the success of trade policy reforms be carried out.

824th plenary meeting
26 March 1993

Decision 402 (XXXIX): Sustainable development

The Trade and Development Board decides that:

1. The Board, taking into account the importance, in the context of sustainable development, of the theme "Trade and environment", consider that theme at the first part of each of its annual sessions; that, for the first part of its fortieth session, it consider within this theme the specific issue "Trends in the field of trade and environment within the framework of international cooperation"; and that for subsequent sessions, the specific issues to be discussed under this theme be determined in the informal consultative mechanism established in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Cartagena Commitment, taking into account the evolution of preparatory work in the secretariat;

2. The Board also consider another theme or themes on sustainable development at the second part of its annual sessions, the specific topic or topics to be identified using the mechanism outlined in paragraph 1 above;

3. The UNCTAD secretariat organize on an experimental basis for the fortieth session periodic information briefings in preparation of the issues to be discussed at that session:

4. The Board review the arrangements in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 above in connection with the process of review and evaluation of the work programmes of the intergovernmental machinery to be held in 1994;

5. The Board transmit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council, in response to paragraph 25 of General Assembly resolution 47/191, the annexed report on its specific plans to implement Agenda 21 within its mandate.

824th plenary meeting
26 March 1993

Annex

RESPONSE OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 47/191

Mandate

1. In paragraph 25 of its resolution 47/191, the General Assembly requested, inter alia, the Trade and Development Board to examine the relevant provisions of Chapter 38 of Agenda 21 at its next session and to submit a report on its specific plans to implement Agenda 21 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session through the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council. The present report responds to this request.

The role of UNCTAD in implementing Agenda 21

2. Paragraph 38.26 of Agenda 21 refers explicitly to UNCTAD by stating that UNCTAD "should play an important role in the implementation of Agenda 21, ... taking into account the importance of the interrelationships between development, international trade and the environment and in accordance with its mandate in the area of sustainable development."

3. The Trade and Development Board has pursued this matter, in accordance with the mandates given to UNCTAD by the Cartagena Commitment and by Agenda 21 itself. The Board is in the process of establishing a work programme responding to these mandates for its own Sessional Committee charged with examining sustainable development issues and, under the Board's overall authority, work programmes have been established to implement relevant provisions of these mandates in the Board's subsidiary bodies.

4. These intergovernmental work programmes represent the specific plans of the Trade and Development Board to implement its mandates in the field of sustainable development. The Board will keep its work in this field under constant review, and will adjust the work programmes in the light of developments.

Organization of intergovernmental work on sustainable development in UNCTAD

5. The work programmes of UNCTAD's intergovernmental bodies are carried out by the Board and its various subsidiary bodies. At the second part of its thirty-ninth session, the Board decided to organize its deliberations on sustainable development as follows:

(a) Taking into account the importance of the theme "Trade and environment", the Board will consider a topic under this theme at the first part of each of its annual sessions; and

(b) It will consider another theme or themes on sustainable development at the second part of its annual sessions.

The topics and themes will be determined well in advance through the informal consultative mechanism established in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Cartagena Commitment, taking into account the evolution of preparatory work in the secretariat. The Board will have the overall responsibility of submitting to the Commission on Sustainable Development the results of its own deliberations, as well as those of its subsidiary bodies.

6. For ease of cross-reference to Agenda 21, the work programmes referred to above are presented below organized around six sectors specific to UNCTAD:

- Agenda 21 and trade;
- Agenda 21 and commodities;
- Agenda 21 and technology;
- Agenda 21 and services;
- Agenda 21 and poverty; and
- Agenda 21 and privatization.

As indicated, because of the importance which member States attach to the subject of trade in the context of sustainable development, the Board itself deals with this subject;* the others are covered in the Board's various subsidiary bodies, which are themselves organized along sectoral lines.

7. It is also worth noting that the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies have adopted the practice of organizing input to their discussions from three

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* The issue of trade and environment is also discussed in one of the Board's subsidiary bodies, from the perspective of the expansion of the trading opportunities of developing countries.

actors singled out in Agenda 21 as playing an important role in the implementation of Agenda 21, namely the private, academic and NGO sectors.

A. Agenda 21 and trade

8. The Board will give consideration to the following areas as elements of its substantive intergovernmental work programme on trade-related aspects of sustainable development. Paragraphs of Agenda 21 to which the work programme elements are relevant are indicated in parentheses for ease of reference.

- Trends in the field of trade and environment within the framework of international cooperation;
  (para. 2.22 (b))

- The reconciliation of environmental and trade policies, including the necessity to ensure that environmental measures do not become an instrument of protection;
  (paras. 2.21 and 2.22 (c, d, e, f, i))

- Analysis of the impact of environment-related regulations and standards on export competitiveness, particularly of developing countries;
  (para. 2.22 (f, g))

- Building of increased awareness and understanding of the interlinkages between trade, development and environment;
  (para. 2.22(b))

- Consideration of the special conditions and development needs of developing countries in the context of trade and environment;
  (para. 2.22(g, h, i))

- Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on environmental regulations and measures which may have an impact on trade, especially that of developing countries;
  (paras. 2.15, 2.22(c))

- Comparative analysis of country experiences with ways and means of promoting trade expansion and diversification without deteriorating or depleting the natural resource base (with specific focus on export competitiveness).
  (paras. 2.11, 2.14, 2.24, 3.5, 4.17, 4.18)

9. In addition, the Board's Ad Hoc Working Group on Expansion of Trading Opportunities for Developing Countries has adopted a work programme which contains the element "Environmental measures", under the terms of which the Working Group would consider the impact of environmental policies and measures on trading opportunities of developing countries with a view to making recommendations for enhancing those opportunities (paras. 2.10(a, c, d), 2.12 and 2.22(a)).

B. Agenda 21 and commodities

10. The Board's Standing Committee on Commodities has agreed on a work programme which singled out sustainable development as one of its four priority areas. This work programme contains the following elements relevant to the implementation of Agenda 21:

- Analysis of national experiences in the management of natural resources with regard to commodity production;
  (para. 3.8(m))

- Exploration of the links between commodity policies, use and management of natural resources and sustainable development;
  (paras. 2.11, 2.13, 2.16(a), 4.10(b))

- Identification of environmental problems that are specific to commodity production and processing and examination of ways of improving developing countries' access to international financial and technical support including environmentally sound technologies to cope with such problems;
  (paras. 4.17(c), 4.18)

- Identification of means by which the competitiveness of natural products with environmental advantages could be improved;
  (paras. 4.19(c); 4.20, 4.22(a,b))

- Examination of the manner in which prices of natural commodities and their synthetic competitors could reflect environmental costs.
  (paras. 2.14(c), 4.24, 8.31(a, b), 8.37)

C. Agenda 21 and technology

11. The Board's Ad Hoc Working Group on the Interrelationship between Investment and Technology Transfer has agreed on a work programme composed of three priority areas, of which one is entitled "Transfer and development of

environmentally sound technologies". This latter contains the following elements relevant to the implementation of Agenda 21:

- Issues involved in the generation, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies which have an impact on competitiveness and development; (paras. 34.14(b), 34.26)

- Policies and measures for the promotion, development, dissemination and financing of environmentally sound technologies, particularly in developing countries, taking into account the need to provide incentives to innovators that promote research and development of these technologies. (paras. 34.11, 34.14, 34.18 - 20, 34.27, 34.28)

D. Agenda 21 and services

12. The Board's Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors, which deals with services in general, shipping and insurance, has adopted work programmes containing the following elements relevant to the implementation of Agenda 21:

- The role played by the services sectors in contributing to growth and sustainable development; (paras. 2.16(a), 4.18, 4.26, 8.14, 8.19, 8.33(a) and 40.22)

- Comparative analysis of the factors which can contribute to sustainable development of ports and related port services. (paras. 17.6(b, i), 17.30(d) and 17.38 (d))

- Alternative mechanisms to meet the insurance and reinsurance needs in respect of environmental impairments. (Although insurance does not appear as such as an issue in Agenda 21, this work element is relevant to chapters 4, 14 and 17 to 22 of Agenda 21)

E. Agenda 21 and poverty

13. The Board's Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation has agreed on a work programme of six priority areas which contains the following elements relevant to the implementation of Agenda 21:

- Analysis of the linkages between poverty and sustainable development; (para. 3.10(a))

Examination of the implications for the poor of national and international policies relating to environment (e.g., application of the polluter-pays principle; environmental standards that might adversely affect the poor); (para. 3.8(d,f,h,o))

F. Agenda 21 and privatization

14. The Board's Ad Hoc Working Group on Comparative Experiences with Privatization has adopted a work programme which includes an element on environmental aspects of privatization (paras. 2.13(a), 2.31, 2.37(c), 2.38, 30.3, 30.4, 30.19 and 30.28)

Studies and projects related to sustainable development funded by extrabudgetary resources

15. The UNCTAD secretariat is pursuing and completing studies, funded by extrabudgetary resources, on market-based instruments for financing environmental protection; this work is focused primarily on the costs and benefits of CO_2 abatement, including tradeable entitlements, joint implementation of commitments, and tax-based instruments. The UNCTAD secretariat has also designed studies and projects related to sustainable development funded by extrabudgetary resources, and the work carried out by the secretariat is indicated in the appendix.

Technical cooperation

16. In the field of technical cooperation, the overall objective of UNCTAD is to strengthen the capacity of the developing countries to implement Agenda 21 effectively. This is being carried out in accordance with paragraph 43 of the Cartagena Commitment and chapter 37 of Agenda 21.

Appendix

Studies and projects related to sustainable development funded by extrabudgetary resources

List of donors

UNDP

Funds are provided for policy oriented research on the interlinkages between trade and environment, consisting of (i) country case studies and (ii) thematic studies of general interest. Work on trade and environment is also supported under an Asian/Pacific Trade and Investment Technical Co-operation Programme.

Colombia

Funding of two studies on the relationships between trade and environment undertaken by a national research institute and a non-governmental organization.

Government of Germany

Funding is provided for studies on particular aspects of tradeable carbon emission entitlements.

Government of Italy

Funding is provided for a training package on developmental aspects of global environmental deliberations within UNCTAD's Trainfortrade programme .

Government of Luxembourg

Funding is provided for a training package on trade and environment within UNCTAD's Trainfortrade programme.

Government of the Netherlands

A contribution is made to two components of the work programme: (i) analysis of trade and environment linkages; (ii) country/commodity case studies. A contribution was also made to the development of a pilot version of **GREENTRADE** in 1992. A study of the implications of basic principles of environmental policy for developing countries is nearly complete. Funding was provided for the first phase of the work on tradeable carbon emission entitlements, and funding is being provided for a pilot initiative on CO_2 offset arrangements.

Government of Norway

Funding is provided for policy-oriented analysis of the links between policies and environmental effects of production and processing in the commodity sector and for a conceptual study on the internalization of environmental externalities in prices of commodities. Funding was provided for the first phase of the work on tradeable carbon emission entitlements, and funding is being provided for a study on the essential design requirements of a global system of tradeable carbon emission entitlements and for a pilot initiative on CO_2 offset arrangements.

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Sponsoring of expert group meetings, hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) in Winnipeg, Canada, to discuss outlines and findings of studies carried out on environment and trade policies.

International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Funding of policy-oriented research on the impacts of environmental concerns on market access, with special reference to eco-labelling.

Agreed conclusions 403 (XXXIX): UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

1. In accordance with paragraph 66 of the Cartagena Commitment and the decision taken by the Board at the first part of the thirty-ninth session, adopted on 14 October 1992,* the Board discussed issues relating to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. The Board also held informal discussions on the regional integration and technical cooperation issues with high ranking officials and experts in this area.

2. The Board recalled that the Final Review and Appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) concluded that the conditions which led to the adoption of the UN-PAAERD still prevailed in the 1990s. It was in recognition of this that the international community adopted the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s by General Assembly resolution 46/151. UNCTAD VIII had undertaken a commitment to respond fully to the General Assembly's requests, including the request for contributions to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. It is within that context that the items under discussion were inscribed on the Board's agenda.

3. It was observed that there were compelling reasons for Africa to continue to pursue cooperation and integration without which Africa risked further marginalization, and could miss out on a central element of development. The Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community reaffirmed African countries' support for regional integration, and UNCTAD's continued support would be important throughout the implementation of the six stages of the Treaty.

4. The Secretariat's document on regional cooperation contained relevant orientations which provided a good basis for UNCTAD's future contribution in support of regional cooperation in Africa. The Committee stressed the importance of strengthening regional infrastructures, transit facilities, transport and communications, support for structural adjustment programmes, harmonization of policies, the private sector and human resources development.

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* Report of the Board on the first part of its thirty-ninth session (TD/B/39(1)/15), part I, section B.6.

5. The growing interest of Africa's development partners in regional integration issues was noted with appreciation and the international community was urged to increase its financial support for regional integration projects at the subregional and regional levels.

6. The joint initiative on the proposed Tokyo Conference on African Development in October 1993 was commended, and it was urged that the UNCTAD secretariat be closely associated with it and report to the next session of the Trade and Development Board.

7. The Board noted with appreciation the extensive range of UNCTAD's technical cooperation activities and called for an evaluation to improve effectiveness. Cooperation with UNCTAD should be demand-driven, selective, well founded, and should reflect priorities of African countries. African countries should also provide their own evaluations and consultations, and collaboration between them and UNCTAD should be intensified. In addition, the need was felt to broaden the dialogue with African countries on regional cooperation projects in Round Tables. Many delegations felt the need for a broader dialogue in Consultative Groups.

8. Africa's most urgent technical assistance needs were in the areas of transport and communications, the enterprise sector, reform programmes, diversification, and human resources development, including the use of African experts and consultants. Concern was expressed at the prospect of the termination of technical cooperation support for the African MTN project due to lack of funding. It was stressed that the need to continue this project would persist also following the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

9. Greater efforts should be made to mobilize resources to support UNCTAD's technical cooperation activities. In this respect, concern was expressed about the decline in UNDP resources. Both multilateral and bilateral donors were urged to increase their resource support for technical cooperation activities in Africa. Possibilities of additional resources should be explored for collaboration on TCDC projects. Many delegations expressed the view that freeing resources from military expenditures could also help.

10. Closer dialogue between Africa and its development partners could promote greater understanding. In this connection, other subregional groupings could establish forums for dialogue, similar to those organized by SADCC countries with their donor countries. Also, the need was felt for greater collaboration with the Global Coalition for Africa.

11. The Board noted the assurances of the secretariat to strengthen the Africa Unit in UNCTAD and requested that the necessary action be taken during the forthcoming meeting of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget.

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Agreed conclusions 404 (XXXIX): Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

1. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, General Assembly resolution 45/206 and the Cartagena Commitment, the Trade and Development Board reviewed progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action. The Board also had an informal exchange of views and an in-depth discussion on improving trading opportunities and domestic and external resource mobilization, including the debt situation and management. The participation of high-ranking officials and experts at the informal sessions contributed to a constructive dialogue.

2. The LDCs reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of reforms including structural adjustment programmes. The Board emphasized the need for the formulation of medium to long-term strategies for socio-economic development, for which a stable political environment was considered necessary. It was stressed that Governments should properly prioritize their short, medium, and long-term objectives, and the mechanisms through which these could be achieved.

3. It was agreed that progress cannot be achieved without sustainable good governance and the concerted efforts of LDC Governments towards economic and social development. It was further agreed that the objectives stated in the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the 1990s can be fully realized through a strong and committed partnership between the LDCs and their development partners.

4. Among the priorities the following were emphasized: human resource development; strengthened policies to combat the problem of population growth; a revitalization of the agricultural sector and an improvement in the food security situation; more vigorous efforts to mobilize and effectively utilize domestic savings;

appropriate fiscal reforms and rationalization of public expenditure in coordination with other macroeconomic and sectoral reforms including trade policy reforms. In this context, the efforts made by the LDCs in respect of reform measures are appreciated.

5. Many delegations, both from LDCs and donor countries, noted with concern that in 1991 ODA to LDCs fell from 0.09 per cent of Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donors' combined GNP in the preceding two years to 0.08 per cent. The performance of six donor countries which in 1991 met the upper ODA target of 0.20 per cent set out in the Programme of Action was noted with satisfaction. Other donor countries expressed their determination to provide substantial ODA to LDCs. The DAC donors were urged to fulfil aid targets and commitments to the LDCs. In addition, the implications of the enlarged list of LDCs on their resource requirements calls for urgent consideration as recommended in the Cartagena Commitment. Efforts should continue to facilitate timely and efficient utilization of aid. Serious concern was expressed for improved balance between the aid conditionalities and the capacity of LDCs to conform to them. Technical assistance should be better targeted towards strengthening human and institutional capacities in LDCs.

6. The current heavy debt burden of the LDCs continues to be a major strain on export earnings and a major hindrance to their efforts to adjust and expand their economies. Accordingly the need for further debt relief was emphasized by many delegations. The LDCs, and some donors, called for improvement of the scope and coverage of existing debt relief schemes and mechanisms, including those relating to debt service obligations to multilateral institutions. A long-term moratorium on LDCs' debt was also proposed by some delegations.

7. The country review process was considered to be useful, although the scope for its improvement was noted, particularly in relation to follow-up and coordination at the local and sectoral level. However, it was felt that the focus of round table meetings, on balance, had so far been more on policy dialogue than on resource mobilization.

8. It was stressed that properly conceived foreign direct investment (FDI) can be an important vehicle not only for stimulating the manufacturing and processing sectors and for mobilizing savings in LDCs, but also for the transfer of technology and managerial skills. The LDCs also urged their developed country partners to help catalyse their development process through active and appropriate FDI.

9. It was stressed that fair access to all markets is a key instrument for the promotion of trade and development. In view of their marginalization in world trade, it was proposed by the LDCs that the Final Act of the Uruguay Round should include

a distinct chapter embodying the specific provisions for LDCs covering the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers for both primary and processed products. The LDCs are of the view that the Draft Final Act (DFA) of the Uruguay Round does not adequately reflect the needs and requirements of LDCs in terms of their access to markets and the new issues such as trade-related intellectual property rights, trade related investment measures and services. LDCs, joined by a number of other delegations, requested that a high-level group should be organized to examine thoroughly the provisions of the DFA as they relate to LDCs and propose concrete measures for inclusion in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round.

10. The need for adequate and timely preparations for an effective and comprehensive mid-term review of the Programme of Action in 1995 was stressed. In order to ensure effective follow-up, it was felt that UNCTAD's participation in country-level monitoring should be strengthened, notably through enhanced participation in the country review process. Collaboration between UNCTAD and the Bretton Woods institutions was noted. UNCTAD, in collaboration with all relevant parts of the United Nations system should undertake substantive and thorough preparations for a comprehensive mid-term review of the Programme of Action, as recommended in General Assembly resolution 45/206.

11. It was emphasized that the LDC Annual Report, the quality of which was favourably commented upon, and other work done by UNCTAD on LDCs, should be made available throughout the United Nations system.

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C. Other texts adopted by the Trade and Development Board

1. Report by the Vice-President (United States of America) on the Consultations on agenda item 2

1. The Trade and Development Board recalled that the Cartagena Commitment emphasized the need for strong policies for human resource development (HRD) to enhance the participation of developing countries and countries in transition in the world economy (paragraph 63 (1) of the Cartagena Commitment). It noted that sound investment in HRD contributes to improved export performance and increased international competitiveness. It welcomed the report prepared by the secretariat on the development of human resources for trade (TD/B/39(2)/14).

2. The main elements of the discussion were:

(a) National HRD policies, based on a close partnership among the government, training institutions and the business community, constitute an essential element in responding to rapid changes in the international economic and technological environment. This partnership also helps in establishing the appropriate national policy framework for the effective use of human resources and for the related objective of institution/capacity building. Women's special needs and opportunities should be taken fully into account in the planning and implementation of HRD programmes. The HRD dimension of trade in services should also be addressed.

(b) Strengthening of local training institutions implying, in particular, special efforts in the training of local trainers and HRD managers, is a necessary condition for the long-term sustainability of training capacities. It also permits the necessary adaptation of training material to the local socio-cultural and trading environment. Training should encompass the development not only of technical skills but also of managerial capabilities.

(c) The network approach, involving the sharing of training material, experiences and trainers, allows cost-effectiveness in the training process, enhances the credibility of local training institutions and facilitates access to centres of excellence abroad (universities, research centres, etc.).

3. The Board noted the importance of adopting national HRD policies for trade based on the above considerations.

4. Considering the experience already demonstrated by UNCTAD in technical cooperation in the field of HRD in trade and related areas, the discussion:

(a) Showed strong support by members for the continuation and implementation by UNCTAD of well-focused HRD activities in trade and trade-related areas, as requested by member countries. Such activities should be carried out in close cooperation with ITC and other relevant organizations, paying special attention to the particular constraints and needs of LDCs and geographically disadvantaged countries;

(b) Indicated, among other programmes, particular approval of and interest in the systematic approach of TRAINMAR and the new programme of TRAINFORTRADE as a practical contribution to the policy orientations outlined in paragraph 2 above, particularly their long-term approach to local capacity-building and network development;

(c) Highlighted the need for UNCTAD to promote actively the development of HRD networks among research, training and technological institutions in trade and trade-related areas, by identifying institutes and enterprises in member countries desirous of cooperating with each other. In this context, use should be made of technologies disseminated in the Trade Efficiency Programme and the Trade Points established thereunder for the exchange of information and of training material;

(d) Noted that UNCTAD's intergovernmental expert work, for instance on trade efficiency, also contributes to the development of appropriate HRD policies on trade.

5. Members of the Board also expressed appreciation to donor countries and organizations for their support to UNCTAD's HRD activities and invited them to continue and, where possible, expand their contributions to enable UNCTAD to respond to requests from member countries. In addition, attention was drawn to the desirability of developing countries' utilizing bilateral and multilateral funds available to them to benefit from UNCTAD's technical cooperation activities in the field of HRD.

2. Message from the Trade and Development Board to the Governments participating in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations

1. The Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD at the second part of its thirty-ninth session, held in Geneva from 15 to 26 March 1993, considered developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries. In this context, the members of the Board stress that an early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round should be viewed as a prerequisite to a return to the path of growth, trade expansion and an improved world economic climate. It is the only way to strengthen the international trading system at present and to give confidence to developing countries and economies in transition that would encourage their economic and trade liberalization reforms.

2. The Draft Final Act of the Uruguay Round should be finalized in a balanced manner, taking into account all issues of interest to developing countries and their development, financial and trade needs in accordance with the Punta del Este Declaration, and be supplemented by a comprehensive market access package on goods and services, in particular covering items of export interest to developing countries. Special attention should also be given to the problems of the least developed countries with a view to integrating them in the global trading system. An evaluation of the results of the Uruguay Round from the point of view of the developing countries is foreseen in Part I, Section G, of the Punta del Este Declaration.

3. The members of the Board recognize the urgency of all Governments participating in the Uruguay Round, and in particular the major trading nations, exercising fully their responsibilities and leadership, and attributing the highest political priority to bringing these negotiations to an early and successful conclusion.

3. Report of the Chairman of Sessional Committee I on agenda item 4

1. In accordance with paragraphs 143 and 144 of the Cartagena Commitment, Sessional Committee I discussed developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries. There was unanimity that the successful completion of the Uruguay Round represented a high political priority for all Governments participating in these negotiations in view of their importance for resuming economic growth and strengthening the international trading system. In this connection, Sessional Committee I agreed by consensus that the Trade and

Development Board send a Message to the Governments participating in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. (For the text of the Message, see section 2 above).

2. The Message will be submitted to the President of the Board as an important policy outcome of this session.

3. The Committee also held important informal discussions on the Uruguay Round with the participation of Mr. Arthur Dunkel, Director-General of GATT. It was felt that such cooperative forms of work between UNCTAD and GATT should be actively pursued in the future.

4. In the course of the discussions several substantive views were communicated from various delegations. Among these were the following:

(a) Many delegations considered as very important and timely the initiative by H.E. Carlos Saul Menem, the President of Argentina, in addressing a letter, on 11 March 1993, on behalf of 37 Governments, to the President of the United States, the Commission of the European Communities, the Council of the European Communities and the Prime Minister of Japan. This letter had addressed the main issues involved in the final stage of the Uruguay Round and had urged that the highest priority be accorded to efforts aimed at an early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

(b) Delegations from developed countries recognized their responsibility and reconfirmed their political desire to bring the Round to a successful and balanced conclusion. It was also felt that the United States, the European Communities and Japan needed to provide leadership at this critical stage of the Round.

(c) The delegations representing the least developed countries urged the international community and in particular the participants in the Uruguay Round to recognize the special difficulties of these countries and provide for a differential and more favourable treatment to them in specific negotiating areas, including in relation to market access, rules of origin, anti-dumping, technical barriers to trade, safeguards, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, textiles and clothing, trade-related intellectual property rights, trade-related investment measures and trade in services. In their view, the concerns of the least developed countries should be

fully addressed with a view to integrating them in the global system of trade in an equitable manner.

(d) The specific concerns of other developing countries, in particular African countries and net food-importing developing countries should be taken into account in the Uruguay Round.

(e) Some delegations emphasized that both the degree and scope of involvement of developing countries in the Uruguay Round were unprecedented. They had made substantial efforts to create a secured and rational environment for free trade in pursuing the objectives of the Punta del Este Declaration. Many developing countries stressed that they had implemented programmes of trade liberalization reforms autonomously, assuming that their export-driven adjustment programmes would be complemented by improved market access and strengthened disciplines at the international level, in particular through a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round: on that understanding, they had submitted generous offers for market access in goods and services. However, in their opinion, some developed countries not only failed to respond positively to these gestures, but were also introducing new concepts that could question the merits of an open free-trade system and negatively affect trade prospects of developing countries. In this connection, countries exporters of bananas from Central and South America expressed their dissatisfaction and deep concern over the new bananas import regime in the European Community that was contrary to the objectives of the Punta del Este Declaration on trade liberalization. Some ACP countries stated that the European Communities had entered into contractual obligations with the ACP countries in respect of bananas under the Lomé Convention, and that they expected that these obligations would be honoured and respected.

(f) Most delegations felt that the Draft Final Act provided the basis for an early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round, which should be finalized in a balanced manner, incorporating a comprehensive market access package for goods and services, in particular covering items of export interest to developing countries.

(g) Some delegations were of the opinion that it was crucial that transparency be fully assured in plurilateral/multilateral negotiations and in specific consultations among participants in the Uruguay Round.

(h) It was emphasized that an evaluation of the results of the Round relating to trade in goods should be carried out in accordance with Part I, section G, of the Punta del Este Declaration in order to ensure that developing countries received differential and more favourable treatment.

(i) Several delegations emphasized the valuable role which UNCTAD, as an assembly with universal membership and a particular role in the promotion of the trade and development prospects of the developing countries, could play in this process. UNCTAD was competent to follow the developments in the Uruguay Round within its mandate and to review international trade issues that had a bearing on the development process. It was also particularly important that the Trade and Development Board study the substantive developments in the international trading system, inter alia, relating to significant modifications in trade policies of both developed and developing countries with a view to identifying problems and opportunities in international trade in the 1990s.

5. It was agreed that this report will be presented to the executive session of the Trade and Development Board on the Uruguay Round, to be held on 27 April 1993. Some delegations expressed an opinion that the deliberations in Sessional Committee should be aimed at obtaining agreed conclusions. Other delegations felt that on this particular item a Chairman's summary or report would be sufficient. It was agreed that the present report does not create any precedent for future meetings.

4. Report by the Vice-President (Morocco) on the Consultations on agenda item 7

1. The informal consultations on agenda item 7 were held on 22 and 24 March 1993. The discussions took into consideration the introductory statement made by the representative of the secretariat and documents TD/B/39(2)/20 and TD/B/39(2)/Misc.1, as well as statements made by several delegations on this item in plenary.

2. As a result of a good, frank general debate on the issue the following agreement was reached by consensus:

(a) to request the President of the thirty-ninth session of the Board to conduct, for about 2 days in the week of 14-18 June 1993, informal

consultations on the draft terms of reference and the timetable of the Ad Hoc Working Group to explore the issue of structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament with a view to facilitating a prompt decision on this issue by the Board;

(b) to request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to prepare revised draft terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group, taking into account views and statements on this issue, as well as a compendium of comments submitted by member States, and to circulate both documents well in advance of the informal consultations mentioned above;

(c) to establish, at the first part of the fortieth session of the Board, the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group to explore the issue of structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament as well as its timetable. It was suggested that the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group should take place as early as possible in 1994.

5. Terms of reference of the proposed Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Ports

1. The Group of Experts will examine factors which can contribute to efficient management and sustainable development of ports and related port services in order to foster competitive maritime transport services and to strengthen capacities for trade.

2. In carrying out its task, the Group of Experts will:

(a) Focus on two main elements of the new work programme, namely:

- Port organization, including issues relating to privatization, commercialization, deregulation and existing legislation;

- Port management, including issues relating to human resources development, strategic planning, marketing, sustainable development and investment requirements;

(b) Supplement the expertise available in the secretariat through the presentation by selected ports of the experience gained in the fields of port organization and port management;

(c) Assess, while having due regard to competition between ports, the potentialities for increased regional cooperation between ports, in the fields of port organization and management;

(d) Review the relevant publications produced by the secretariat at the request of the 1990 Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Ports by:

(i) examining their distribution and assessing the interest they generated, the applicability of their relevant recommendations and what additional information is needed for the development of competitive ports and related port services, particularly those located in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(ii) providing inputs from the port industry on significant gaps in existing information on port organization and management available from international organizations, port associations, seminars, conferences, and publications to ascertain whether there is a need to strengthen the dissemination of the available information;

(iii) providing professional opinion on specific subjects of the approved work programme on which the Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors (Shipping) should accord priority;

(e) Review the work carried out by the secretariat in the field of port management training and technical cooperation, assess its impact on the development of competitive ports and related port services and, in this context, assess the needs that are not met through the various types of training available from bilateral and multilateral sources in order to ascertain potential areas for future UNCTAD activities in this field;

(f) Prepare a report on the above items for submission to the Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors (Shipping) at its second session.

II. PROCEDURAL, INSTITUTIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A. Opening of the session

1. The second part of the thirty-ninth session of the Trade and Development Board was opened on 15 March 1993 by the President, Mr. Gündüz Aktan (Turkey), who made a statement (see Introduction, paras. 1-4).

B. Bureau of the Board

2. At its 818th (opening) meeting, on 15 March 1993, the Board elected Mr. Jakob Esper Larson (Denmark) to replace Mr. Martin R. Morland (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Mr. Marcel P.C. van der Kolk (Netherlands) to replace Mr. Akio Ijuin (Japan) as Vice-Presidents.

3. At its 819th meeting, on 16 March 1993, the Board elected Mr. G. Smirnov (Russian Federation) to replace Mr. G.V. Gabounia (Russian Federation) and Mr. L. Dembinsky (Poland) to replace Mr. Marian Malecki (Poland) as Vice-Presidents.

4. Accordingly, the Bureau of the Board at the second part of its thirty-ninth session was as follows:

President:	Mr. Gündüz Aktan (Turkey)
Vice-Presidents:	Mr. Morris B. Abram (United States of America) Mr. Abdeljebbar Brahime (Morocco) Mr. Ludwik Dembinsky (Poland) Mr. Jakob Esper Larsen (Denmark) Mr. Carlos H. Matute Arias (Honduras) Mr. Gian Nath (Mauritius) Mr. Ri Tcheul (People's Democratic Republic of Korea) Mr. Gleb Smirnov (Russian Federation) Mr. Jorge Soruco (Bolivia) Mr. Marcel P.C. van der Kolk (Netherlands)
Rapporteur:	Mr. Banmali Prasad Lacoul (Nepal)

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 1 (a))

5. At its opening meeting, the Board adopted the provisional agenda for the second part of its thirty-ninth session as set out in section I of TD/B/39(2)/1 and completed in TD/B/39(2)/1/Add.1. (For the agenda, see annex I below).

6. At the same meeting, the Board endorsed the organizational suggestions approved by the Consultations of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD held on 21 January 1993 (TD/B/39(2)/1/Add.2). In accordance with the proposed organization of work, the Board established two sessional committees of the whole, allocating agenda items to them for consideration and report as follows:

Sessional Committee I:

Item 3 - Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform: trade policy reforms in developing countries and the international support required

Item 4 - Developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries.

Sessional Committee II:

Item 6 - UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s:

(a) Review of UNCTAD technical cooperation activities in Africa

(b) Regional integration issues

Item 8 - Sustainable development: implications for UNCTAD of recent General Assembly decisions concerning the follow-up to UNCED's conclusions and recommendations.

7. The Board further agreed that, during the second week of the session, Sessional Committee II would convert itself into a Special Sessional Committee to consider and report on:

Item 5 - Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.

8. All other agenda items were taken up in plenary.

9. Since the Sessional Committees would be addressing issues similar to those dealt with by corresponding Committees of the Board at the first part of the thirty-ninth session, the Board decided that the presiding officers and the Vice-Chairmen-cum-Rapporteur elected at the first part of the session be retained to serve in the same capacities at the second part of the session. In view of the replacement of the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur of Sessional Committee II, the officers of the sessional bodies at the second part of the thirty-ninth session were as follows:

Sessional Committee I

Chairman: Mr. Hugo Cubillos (Chile)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. E.M. Manakine (Russian Federation)

Sessional Committee II/Special Sessional Committee

Chairman: Ms. Taous Feroukhi (Algeria)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. Robert Konrath (United States of America)*

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* Replaced Mr. Thomas Carter (United States of America).

D. Adoption of the report on credentials

(Agenda item 1 (b))

10. At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board adopted the report submitted by the Bureau on the credentials of all representatives attending the session (TD/B/39(2)/21).

E. Provisional agenda for the first part of the fortieth session of the Board

(Agenda item 1 (c))

11. At the same meeting, the Board approved the provisional agenda for the first part of its fortieth session, as contained in TD/B/39(2)/L.5. (For the provisional agenda, see annex II below).

12. In accordance with past practice, the Board authorized the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in consultation with the President, to adjust and complete the provisional agenda in the light of developments. This arrangement was on the understanding that any amendments or additions would be subject to consultations with representatives of States members of the Bureau and interested delegations within the framework of the consultative machinery established in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Cartagena Commitment.

F. Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

(Agenda item 11 (a))

13. At its 821st plenary meeting, on 18 March 1993, the Board considered and designated the following two intergovernmental bodies under rule 76 of its rules of procedure: the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), and the Central American Commission on Maritime Transport (COCATRAM). Information on these bodies was contained in documents TD/B/39(2)/R.1 and TD/B/39(2)/R.2. (Now derestricted).

G. Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure

(Agenda item 11 (b))

14. Also at its 821st plenary meeting, on 18 March 1993, the Board decided, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD in TD/B/39(2)/R.3 (now derestricted) and of the Bureau, to designate and classify the following four non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure, as follows:

Special Category for the UNCTAD Organ indicated (other than the Board):

	UNCTAD Organ
International Association Cities and Ports (IACP)	Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors
International Council on Metals and the Environment (ICME)	Standing Committee on Commodities
Development Innovations and Networks (IRED)	Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation
International Primary Aluminium Institute (IPAI)	Standing Committee on Commodities

15. The applications by these non-governmental organizations together with information on their history, structure and functioning, are contained in documents TD/B/39(2)/R.3/Add.1-4 (now derestricted).

16. At the same meeting, the Board agreed to the recommendations of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and of the Bureau regarding the procedure suggested in paragraph 4 of TD/B/39(2)/CRP.6, namely that, owing to the limited duration of the Ad Hoc Working Groups for an initial period of two years, a certain flexibility be applied in defining the category of non-governmental organizations which have a special competence in more than two subsidiary bodies of the Board, and that this

would not automatically result in their classification in the general category as had been the procedure in the past. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD would exercise his judgement and discretion in recommending the classification of non-governmental organizations, based on the range and nature of their interest in, and potential contribution to, the work of UNCTAD. The Board also agreed to the revised reclassification of non-governmental organizations in the special category, as contained in the annex to TD/B/39(2)/CRP.6, which will be incorporated into a revised version of the document listing non-governmental organizations in the activities of UNCTAD (TD/B/INF.107/Rev.6).

17. Also at the same meeting, the Board noted that the European Council of Chemical Manufacturers' Federations, a non-governmental organization which had been granted status in the Special Category by the Board at the first part of its twelfth session, had changed its name to the European Chemical Industry Council. The acronym "CEFIC" remained unchanged.

H. Review of the calendar of meetings

(Agenda item 11 (c))

18. At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board, having taken note that the dates 19-23 April 1993 for the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT no longer applied and that a one-week meeting of the Group would be held at a later date, approved the draft calendar of meetings for 1993 and the draft indicative calendar of meetings for the biennium 1994-1995, as contained in TD/B/39(2)/L.2.

I. Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

(Agenda item 11 (d))

19. At the same meeting, the Board noted that there were no administrative or financial implications attached to the action taken by the Board at its current session.

J. Other business

(Agenda item 12)

1. Membership of Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Working Groups

20. At the same meeting, the Board confirmed the revised membership of the new bodies established by the Conference, as reflected in TD/B/39(2)/CRP.5, and noted that any amendments or omissions should be communicated to the Secretary of the Board.

2. Venue of the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency in 1994

21. At the 823rd meeting, on 23 March 1993, the representatives of Canada and the United States of America provided the Board with details concerning their Government's offer to host the 1994 symposium in Toronto and Columbus, Ohio, respectively.

22. The representative of Switzerland made a statement welcoming these offers.

Action by the Board

23. At its 824th (closing) meeting, on 26 March 1993, the Board took note of the oral report by the President on informal consultations he had held on the respective offers of Canada and the United States of America to host the Symposium. In view of the outcome of those consultations, the Board welcomed and endorsed the holding of the Symposium in Columbus (Ohio), United States of America, in 1994.

3. Statement by the Latin American and Caribbean Group

24. The spokesman for the Latin American and Caribbean Group (Chile) reaffirmed the support of his Group for UNCTAD and for the successful implementation of the results achieved at the eighth session of the Conference in Cartagena Colombia. He recalled that it was the aspiration of his Group that the next Secretary-General of UNCTAD would be chosen from among candidates from his region.

K. Adoption of the report of the Board

(Agenda item 13)

25. Also at its closing meeting, the Board adopted the draft report on the second part of its thirty-ninth session (TD/B/39(2)/L.1 and Add.1-4), with minor amendments, and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the final version as appropriate. It further authorized the Rapporteur, under the authority of the President, to prepare the Board's report to the General Assembly.

ANNEXES

Annex I

AGENDA FOR THE SECOND PART OF THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

1. Procedural matters

   (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session;

   (b) Adoption of the report on credentials;

   (c) Provisional agenda for the first part of the fortieth session of the Board

2. Follow-up to the recommendations adopted by the Conference at its eighth session: policies for human resource development, with particular reference to technical cooperation activities for trade and development

3. Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform: trade policy reforms in developing countries and the international support required

4. Developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries

5. Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

6. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

   (a) Review of UNCTAD technical cooperation activities in Africa

   (b) Regional integration issues

7. Follow-up to the decision of the Trade and Development Board at the first part of its thirty-ninth session (Board decision 399 (XXXIX) of 9 October 1992) on the establishment of an ad hoc working group to explore the issue of structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament

8. Sustainable development: implications for UNCTAD of recent General Assembly decisions concerning the follow-up to UNCED's conclusions and recommendations

9. Other matters in the field of trade and development:

   - Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-fifth session (ITC/AG(XXV)/134 and Add.1)

10. Reports and activities of the subsidiary bodies of the Board: matters requiring action:

    (a) Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget, twenty-second session (8-12 March 1993)

    (b) Convening of an Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Ports

11. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

    (a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

    (b) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

    (c) Review of the calendar of meetings;

    (d) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

12. Other business

13. Adoption of the report of the Board.

Annex II

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST PART OF THE FORTIETH SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

1. Procedural matters:

   (a) Election of officers

   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

   (c) Adoption of the report on credentials

   (d) Provisional agenda for the second part of the fortieth session of the Board

   (e) Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board (March 1994)

2. International implications of macro-economic policies and issues concerning interdependence: growth dynamics in the context of global interdependence

3. Debt issues in a development context, including the recent evolution of debt rescheduling

4. UNCTAD's contribution, within its mandate, to sustainable development: trade and environment

5. Follow-up to the recommendations adopted by the Conference at its eighth session: evolution and consequences of economic spaces and regional integration processes

6. Developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries

7. Specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

8. UNCTAD's assistance to the Palestinian people

9. Other matters in the field of trade and development:

   (a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: twenty-sixth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

   (to be completed in the light of developments)

10. Other matters requiring action by the Board arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies:

   (to be completed in the light of developments)

11. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

   (a) Treatment of new States members of UNCTAD

   (b) Membership of the Trade and Development Board

   (c) Membership of the Standing Committees

   (d) Membership of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget for 1994

   (e) Draft terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group to explore the issue of structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament

   (f) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

   (g) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

   (h) Preparations for the thirtieth anniversary of UNCTAD in 1994

   (i) Review of the calendar of meetings

   (j) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

   (to be completed in the light of developments)

12. Other business

13. Adoption of the report of the Board.

Annex III

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE*

1. The following States members of UNCTAD, members of the Board, were represented at the session:

Afghanistan
Albania
Algeria
Angola
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Belarus
Belgium
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Canada
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
Czech Republic
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Denmark
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Guinea
Honduras
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kenya
Kuwait
Lebanon
Liberia

* For the list of participants, see TD/B/39(2)/INF.4.

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Liechtenstein
Madagascar
Malaysia
Malta
Mexico
Morocco
Myanmar
Namibia
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nigeria
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Slovakia
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Thailand
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela
Viet Nam
Zambia
Zimbabwe

2. The following other States members of UNCTAD, not members of the Board, were represented as observers at the session:

Cambodia	Lithuania
Croatia	Mozambique
Holy See	Slovenia

3. Participated pursuant to General Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX):

Palestine

Participated pursuant to General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX):

Pan Africanist Congress of Azania.

4. The following bodies of the United Nations secretariat were represented at the session:

The United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Population Fund

The International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT was also represented.

5. The following specialized and related agencies were represented at the session:

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
World Health Organization
World Bank
International Monetary Fund
World Intellectual Property Organization
United Nations Industrial Development Organization

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade was also represented.

6. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented at the session:

Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation
Arab Organization for Agricultural Development
European Economic Community

League of Arab States
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Organization of African Unity
Organization of the Islamic Conference

7. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the session:

General Category

Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers)
International Chamber of Commerce
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises
World Confederation of Labour
World Federation of United Nations Associations

Special Category

International Air Transport Association
International Association of Islamic Banks